

Opinion

Open meetings

Most people who attend Carbondale Area School Board meetings for the first time are astounded by the formality of the proceedings. The directors follow the agenda like actors reading a script.

Votes are taken in public, but there is virtually no discussion between directors in public. Their most interesting conversations take place behind closed doors during work sessions.

All that may change soon. A new "Sunshine Law" bill was

to be voted on in the state Senate on Tuesday. If passed, as expected, the bill would then go to the House of Representatives.

The bill requires that the public be allowed to attend any meeting in which there is official action or deliberations on issues headed for formal action. This would mean the opening of work sessions (except in a few specific instances) to the public.

We support this bill and urge representatives Serafini and Wargo to vote for its passage.

Letters TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note: If you have recently written a letter to the editor, and have not seen it published, you don't sign it. Our policy is to print letters that have been signed and include a phone number and address for verification, if necessary. We withhold names upon request, but

Icy streets

heavily agree with Dorothy Castle and a concerned citizen that the roads and sidewalks in Carbondale are deplorable. It is a fact that if you live on the hill, the only thing left for you to walk the street and risk the traffic in front, and back of you. I have been a disaster to get off the hill, and no one can deny it.

And last, but not least, the walk to the new post office has been a real problem. There have been few sidewalks cleared that you could walk on, and so you walk the street during the traffic. Salem Avenue and River Street. It is indeed a shame that you cannot get to a public building like the post office without going through such hazards.

Why must we go through this? As somebody said to me, "This is par for the course in Carbondale."

Sign me,
Concerned citizen No. 2

Thanks, Mr. Falvo

To the Editor:
I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. Felix Falvo, president of the Carbondale Area School Board for taking time out from his busy schedule to call me last Wednesday, the day that my letter hit this paper, to inform me of a few inside facts.

First of all, he had asked me why I had not contacted the school board as to their side of the story. I will admit that I really should have done that before I had mailed my letter. I realize now that this was not very fair, on my part, but as you may recall, I had used the words, "appears" and "seems." These words mean possible opposition to reality. The rest of the letter was my view and opinion of the matter. If those facts had happened to be positively definite, since the situation is not as unwholesome as it has "seemed," and since Mr. Falvo was considerate enough to enlighten me on this matter, I had decided to retract my statements, out of gratitude and consideration.

I would like to express my apologies to Mr. Falvo, and all or any of the members of the Carbondale Area School Board, who may possibly have taken any offense from my letter. I would also like to express my gratitude and appreciation to those members for the patience and consideration they have shown us, and to Mr. Falvo, for the information that he had graciously given me.

Sincerely,
Rita-Rogers Busby

Carbondale News

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Do you remember when...

15 YEARS AGO
David A. Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Evans of Newton Lake had been awarded the degree of doctor of philosophy by the University of Massachusetts.

Edwina St. Peter and Paul Church of Simpson seated sodality officers? Mrs. Basil Reval, treasurer; Mrs. Charles Samoski, president; Mrs. Edward Przewalski, vice president; Mrs. Frank Hodorova, general chairman; Mrs. Michael Petrak, sergeant-at-arms; Mrs. Peter Kulencik, bake sale chairman.

Long time members of the Carbondale Lions Club were awarded pins in recognition of their services. They were: Simon Lyoth, Charles W. Avery, Thomas J. Wilson, Walter J. Campbell, John B. Trzasko, Paul Scheldel, Todd Kamaler, Anthony Malloy, Kenneth C. Mannion, Daniel Burns.

The boys of Cub Pack 17 won the Pinewood Derby? They were: John Washelst, John Lajewski, Fred Soha, Steven Voyce and Dave Lesinski.

C.B. Tomaine was elected president of the Liberty Discount and Savings Bank at a meeting of the Board of Directors? Mr. Tomaine succeeded the late Albert C. McClure in the presidency.

Sheriff Santo A. Pascoe was honored at a testimonial dinner at the Northeastern Pennsylvania National Bank and Trust Co. announced the election of Donald Threwhay and Joseph Harlan to the board of directors?

Miss Joan Laskowsky, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Laskowsky, 184 S. Church St., a student at David High School, was named Miss Carbondale for the 1969-70 season.

Stephen Bambas, supervising principal of Fell Township School, said that portions of the Carbondale area which "I'd like to pass on to the next generation?" And that the sooner we pass it on, the better.

Forest City High School set an area record for the 1969-70 season? The victory was the 39th consecutive win in Northern League competition for the Forsters.

Raymond F. Daschak, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Daschak, had named manager of Sealtest Foods milk processing plant in Newark, N.J.

Miss Joan Corra had begun her student teaching in the Hamilton Township School, Stroudsburg?

Carl Schmidt, golf pro at Elkview Country Club, announced the opening of a golf school at the Catholic Youth Center?

Carbondale merchants voted to continue a five-month schedule of Wednesday half holidays, May through September?

25 YEARS AGO
Dean Maxwell, Jr., was named toastmaster for the 11th annual Father and Son Banquet of the Carbondale YMCA.

Patricia Swan, a June Graduate of Benjamin Franklin High School and first year student in the nursing program at Kutztown Junior College, attended the Keystone homecoming?

Genevieve Bubernack was chosen

What's this? Two Chinese Restaurants? I was almost afraid to keep going. I'm not anything like it was. And a Kentucky Fried Chicken and Chuck & Cheese? I couldn't wait to get home - progress does that to me sometimes.

Driving into Carbondale put me a little at ease - still the same so far as driving past the new high school. Wonder what they're doing with old Ben Franklin High? Has it gone to same route as my favorite elementary school, Lincoln P.S. No. 7? I hope not. I wonder if the new school smells from chalk and oil of floors - probably not. Oh, well, that was a different time.

Oh, I'm glad they fixed the clock at City Hall. Mom told me they were going to build a new one. I hope they don't. It saddened me on previous trips home for the clock not working. It always seemed part of the town's vital organs when I was a youngster and gave me a feeling of permanence whenever I returned.

What's this? A new Post Office? What's wrong with the old one? And a doctor built an office right across from the Jay-Cee Dress Co. where I got my first job. Funny, that's still here!

Wait, am I driving into another time in the Twilight Zone? Where did these buildings come from? The top one familiar, but not the bottom. Gasp! The VIADUCT IS GONE! Am I never to hear the rattle of the grille again or hold my breath when I reach the top wondering if the driver of the other side was on his side of the road?

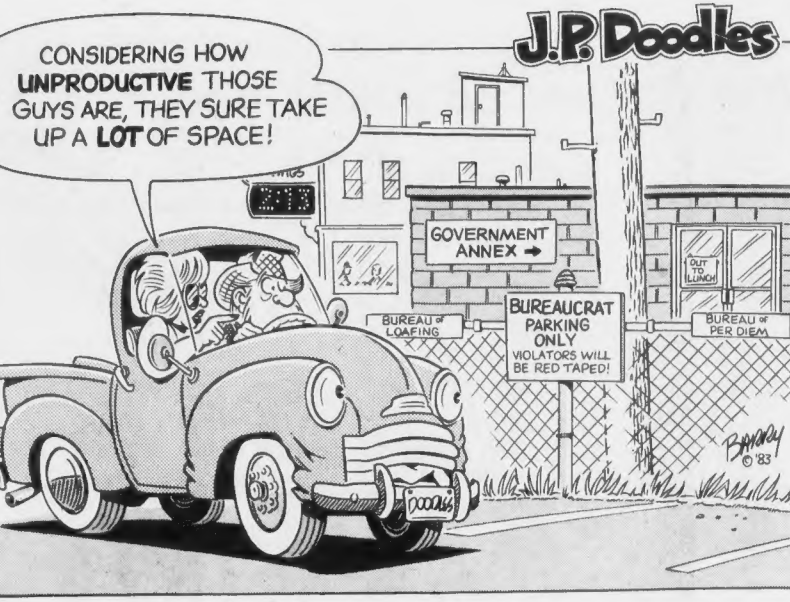
And where is that burned red eyeglass that used to be a little grocery store that was on the top? I always wondered what was on the other floor of that building and why it just didn't fall over.

The new road gave the houses on the new lot a familiar feel. We don't even have one in Hartford, Connecticut, population 100,000 or so.

Coming home
To the Editor:
I came home today after one year - at least I thought I did!

Coming up the Scranton-Carbondale Highway always had a "sameness" about it, but now I was surprised at the many changes in just 12 months.

The Wildwood which was "the place" when I was a teenager, is now a pile of burnt wood and a chimney. Passing two Pizza Huts is just a few miles also surprised me. We don't even have one in Hartford, Connecticut, population 100,000 or so.



KEEPING in touch
By James Laurie
103 Darwin Road
Laurel, MD 20707



John and Mary Monahan, 6722, Knollbrook Drive, Mystowne, Maryland 20712, think back and praise the days of their youth and thank God above for giving them that special love. Mary Louise is the daughter of Frank and Julie McDougall. Rose of Scott St. John's parents are Michael and Mary Parnell Monahan, Fallbrook St. They have five children: Mary Lou, Kathleen, Marjorie, Grace and Michael, and are the proud grandparents of Sarah and Robert. Mary Louise's sisters are Anita, Dorothy and Marjorie. Her brother, Frank Jr., is deceased. John's brothers and sisters are Mary, Anne, Edward, Helen (deceased), and Joseph (deceased).

The Passing Of Our Memorable Backhouse
When memory keeps me company and moves to smiles or tears, this weather-beaten object looms thru the mist of years, behind the house and barn it seemed a half a mile or more. My hurrying feet a path had made right to its swinging door. Did you ever day of life, I played a leading part. And on the passing traveler stopped, and heaved a sigh. To see a modest girl's step out, with glances of shy.

We had our pony garden, that Mama loved so well. I loved it too when the wind was right, we had a stronger smell. That filled the evening breezes, so full of homely cheer. That told the night we're home, that human life was near. One day April afternoon, we had an April Shower. Soaked my Granddaddy and had to stay an hour. For there the summer mornings, its very career entwined. And berries bushes reddened, in its steaming soil behind.

All day the fat spiders spun their webs, to catch the buzzing flies. That fitted to and from the house, where Ma was making pies. And once a swarm of hornets bold, had built a palace there. And among my unsuspecting aunt, I must not tell you where. Then father took a kerosene flaming pole, that was a happy day. He nearly burned the building down, but the hornets left to stay. When summer blooms began to fade and winter came to call, We looked at the little building, with a heap of ferns to fall.

But when the crust was on the snow and the skulky skies were gray. Inside this building was no place where one would care to stay. We did our duties promptly, one purpose wayward our mind. On something good cooking on the stove, I must not tell you where. For if early morning, one was sure to be wide awake. The furnace of the icy east, would make one shiver and shake. And from a frost-encrusted rail, suspended by a string, The Sears & Roebuck Catalog hung, its pages cleanliness would bring. When Grandma had to go out back, and make her morning call, Mama would hand her up with gloves, a muffler and a shawl. I knew the hole on which she sat, was padded all around. And once I dared to sit there, I knew I'd have passed a year. My losses were all too little and I jinked them to stay. They had to be the cradle of our life, I have passed a year. Then father said, ambition was that little boys should stand. And I used the Children's hole all childhood days were done.

I still marvel at the craft, that cut those holes so true. Labor of love, that fit, me and you. That dear old fashion landmark, I've tramped around a bit, And in my lapid luxury, my life has been a bit. But one I die, I'll eat the fruit of trees I robbed of yore. And when I see the starry, where my name is carved upon its door. A memory of yesterday, a necessity, behind the barn, behind our house, The Passing Of Our Memorable Backhouse.

Editor's note:
The best way we know to keep up on what's going on in Carbondale if you've moved away is to have a copy of the paper delivered to your door each week. We like to think it's like a letter from home, and our many satisfied out-of-town readers would agree.

A subscription also makes a perfect birthday or anniversary gift from the folks back home.

Sincerely,
Saundra M. Laurie

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REA AND DERICK DRUGS

REA & DERICK YOUR FAMILY PHARMACY.

SAVE WEDNESDAY THRU SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4

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KLEENEX SOFTQUE FACIAL TISSUES 69¢ (175 count, white, soft and fluffy)

COATS 'n CLARK RED HEART YARN 109 (3 1/2 oz. skein, 4 ply knitting yarn, acid washed, 4 Dupont Weylan product)

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BRACH'S CONVERSATION HEARTS 88¢ (Small or large, 10 oz. each)

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LIPTON CUP-A-SOUP 69¢ (4 pack, Chicken Noodle, vegetable beef)

HEALTH & BEAUTY AIDS

EXTRASTRENGTH EXCEDRIN 349 (100 tablets, for headache)

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POLIDENT DENTURE CLEANSER 139 (40 tablets, price reduced from 20¢ each)

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PHOTO ENLARGEMENTS 79¢ (8 x 10 ENLARGEMENT 199)

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